



P.O. Box 158

## BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

CC Docket 96-45
CC Docket No. 02-06

# REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DECISION OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION COMPANY, SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DIVISION BY ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, REQUEST FOR A WAIVER OF SECTION 54.404(a) OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES

Funding Year 10 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)

Billed Entity Name: Zapata County Independent School District

Billed Entity No.: 141503

Billed Entity FCC Registration No.: 0012731899

Form 471 No.: 552614

Funding Request Number: 1524732

#### I. Introduction and Summary

Zapata County Independent School District ("Zapata CISD"), and in accordance with Sections 54.719(c) and 54.722 of the Commission's Rules, appeals a decision of the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"), Schools and Libraries Division (the "SLD"). Specifically, Zapata CISD appeals or alternatively, requests a waiver of the USAC decision issued November 15, 2009, (EXHIBIT A), in which it affirmed a previous determination that the district's Form 471 filed with respect to its procurement of services did not comply with state and/or local competitive bidding guidelines and did not get board approval for the Internal Connections services, therefore, should not have been funded.





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Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") of Technology for Zapata County Independent School District ("Zapata CISD") located at 17<sup>th</sup> and Carla, Zapata, Texas 78076, a Texas school district which is an applicant under the Universal Service Support Mechanism ("E-Rate Program" or "Program") for the Schools and Libraries Division Support Mechanism ("SLD"), commonly known as the E-Rate program. This request comes before the Commission in a timely manner from the Administrator decision letter.

"After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that this funding commitment must be rescinded in full. During the course of the audit it was determined that the applicant failed to comply with the FCCs competitive bidding requirements. The applicant did not advertise in the local paper when and where submitted bids would be received and opened. Nor did the applicant get board approval for the Internal Connections services. According to the FCCs competitive bidding requirements, Applicants are required to follow state and local procurement requirements. Since the Applicant failed to comply with the procurement requirements, the commitment has been rescinded in full and USAC will seek recovery of any disbursed funds from the Applicant."

During an attestation audit conducted in April, 2009 (Exhibit B), Ernst & Young found that Zapata CISD did not publish their notice of intent to purchase in the local newspaper. Zapata CISD respectfully submits that because of special circumstances, the newspaper advertisement was not placed in the local newspaper. Zapata County is a very small town with a population of 5,390 according to the July 2007 statistical publication with a newspaper circulation that is also very small. Two dominant special circumstances occurred that led this oversight of publishing in the local newspaper: 1) during this filing process, the district Coordinator of Technology, Mr. Gilbert Flores, was on active duty in Iraq for his second tour of duty. This made the application process impossible for the district to handle so they contracted with an outside consulting service to handle all of the E-Rate processes which led to 2) the second special circumstance: someone that was not familiar with the district or the state purchasing requirements handled the applications. We submit that the intent of the competitive bidding requirements were followed and we, request an appeal of the decision to recover all funding for this FRN.

Secondly, the attestation audit also found that Zapata CISD <u>did not get board approval</u> for the Plain Old Telephone Services (POTS). Zapata CISD respectfully disagrees with this finding and has included board minutes in which the approval for all purchases was made (Exhibit C and Exhibit D respectively). The date of the board approval was on February 18, 2005 and the FCC Form 471 (552614) was file and certified on January 29, 2007 pointing back to the establishing 470 from the previous funding year. Both special circumstances listed above are the direct result for the board approval letters not being found during the audit. We contend that had these two circumstances not been in effect, neither of the findings would have occurred.

For the reasons outlined in this document, Zapata CISD believes it has complied with the intent of its obligations to the best of their ability given the situation present at the time pursuant to both 47 C.F.R. §





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54.504(a). The SLD's decision in this case would cause Zapata CISD to be required to reimburse USAC for over \$42,000.00 which would cause undue hardship on the District. Such a result is contrary to the intent of the Telecommunications Act and is a wholly inequitable result. As such, the SLD's determination of November 15, 2010 should be reversed by the Commission. In the alternative, Zapata CISD seeks a waiver of the Commission's rules to allow Zapata CISD to retain the funding it received. In this case, granting a waiver would avoid the inequitable result of forcing the District to reimburse the SLD despite the fact that Zapata CISD made every effort to comply with the Commission's rules and state and/or local requirements.

#### Sequence of Events and Background:

The C.F.R requires that all eligible schools seek competitive bids pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.404 for all services eligible for support under §§ 54.502 and 54.503, which include POTS. According to the C.F.R., "[t]hese competitive bid requirements apply in addition to state and local competitive bid requirements and are not intended to preempt such state or local requirements." Id., § 54.404(a). The eligible school is required to post a Form 470 to the USAC Administrator (the "Administrator") which is then posted by USAC on its website seeking bids for the services at issue. Id., § 54.404(b). Among other requirements, the District is required to review and evaluate the bids and accept the bid that is the most cost-effective but only after the Form 470 has been posted for at least 28 days. Id. Subsequently, an eligible school "shall, upon signing a contract for eligible services, submit a completed FCC Form 471 to the Administrator." 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(c). The "Form 471 shall be signed by the person authorized to order telecommunications and other supported services for the eligible school, library, or consortium and shall include that person's certification under oath" that, among other things, "[t]he entities listed on the FCC Form 471 application have complied with all applicable state and local laws regarding procurement of services for which support is being sought." 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(c)(vi). The certification corresponds with 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(a) statement that the competitive bid requirements apply in addition to state and/or local competitive bid requirements.

Zapata CISD is an eligible school district which seeks discounts for eligible services pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.504. Pursuant to this regulation, Zapata filed Form 470 (221320000599795) for POTS on 12/18/2006. After waiting more than 28 days, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.504 "before making [a] commitment with the selected providers of services," Zapata CISD received no bids and continued with their current month-to-month (MTM) services. The monthly service is being provided by Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. (SPIN 143004662). On February 18, 2005, the Zapata CISD Board of Trustees approved the continued service to Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. On 01/30/2007, Zapata CISD filed Form 471 (552614) for MTM services and pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.504(c) certifying that it had complied with all state and local laws regarding the purchase of these services.

On June 12, 2007 the SLD sent its Funding Commitment Decision Letter ("FCDL") regarding these services. The services, which consisted of POTS services, were then implemented.

#### **REQUEST FOR A WAIVER**





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In the event that the Commission does not grant Zapata CISD's appeal, the District requests, in the alternative, pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's Rules, that the Commission grant a waiver of its rules to permit Zapata CISD to qualify under the Telecommunications Act. 47 C.F.R § 1.3. For the reasons detailed below, Zapata CISD believes such a waiver is equitable and consistent with the Act as well as prior Commission waivers relating to the filing of FCC Forms 470 and 471.

Section 1.3 provides that the Commission may waive its rules "if good cause therefore is shown." 47 C.F.R § 1.3. Generally, a waiver is appropriate if "special circumstances warrant deviation from the general rule and such deviation will serve the public interest." Northeast Cellular Telephone Co. v. FCC, 897 F.2d 1164 (D.C. Cir. 1990);

"6. Generally, the Commission's rules may be waived for good cause shown. The Commission may exercise its discretion to waive a rule where the particular facts make strict compliance inconsistent with the public interest. In addition, the Commission may take into account considerations of hardship, equity, or more effective implementation of overall policy on an individual basis. Waiver of the Commission's rules is therefore appropriate only if special circumstances warrant a deviation from the general rule, and such a deviation will serve the public interest."

See also WAIT Radio v. FCC, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969);

"The Commission may waive its rules 'for good cause shown'. To obtain a waiver of the Commission's rules, a waiver proponent must demonstrate either that: (i) the underlying purpose of the rule(s) would not be served or would be frustrated by application to the present case, and that a grant of the waiver would be in the public interest; or (ii) in view of unique or unusual factual circumstances of the instant case, application of the rule(s) would be inequitable, unduly burdensome, or contrary to the public interest, or the applicant has no reasonable alternative. An entity seeking a waiver faces a high hurdle and must plead with particularity the facts and circumstances that warrant a waiver."

A waiver is appropriate here because Zapata CISD complied to the best of their ability with the requirements of the Telecommunications Act and with state and local bidding requirements. In the event the Commission does not agree with the District that it complied with the letter and intent of 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(a), it should waive these rules and reverse the SLD's determination of November 15, 2010.

There is no evidence in the record that Zapata CISD engaged in activity intended to defraud or abuse the E-Rate program. Denying its requests for funding would create undue hardship, not serve the public interest, and prevent it from receiving E-Rate funding for services already provided by Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. Accordingly, we feel good cause exists to grant Zapata CISD a waiver of section 54.504(a) of the Commission's rules. Additionally, Zapata CISD has put an Internal Control Plan (ICP) into place to keep such occurrences from ever occurring again. This ICP is an internal document that was developed as a result of the Ernst and Young audit that clearly sets forth strategies for all aspects of the E-Rate process with recognizable status, timelines, person responsible, and evidence of action within the



Laura McCoy

Zapata County Independent School District

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document. Clearly, Zapata CISD has met the recommendations that were outcomes of this audit and subsequent report that was filed. We find this a 'best practices' type of document that will be utilized within the district for all future E-Rate activities.

#### CONCLUSION

Zapata CISD respectfully requests that the Commission reverse the SLD's determination of November 15, 2010 in which it affirmed a previous determination that Zapata CISD's Form 471 filed with respect to its procurement of Telecommunications Services did not comply with TEA procurement policies, and, therefore, should not have been funded. In the alternative, Zapata CISD seeks a waiver as described herein, to allow Zapata CISD to retain the funding it received pursuant to the Funding Commitment Letter issued by the SLD on June 12, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura M. McCoy, CFO

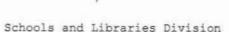
Enclosures:

ExhibitA SWBellCOMAD.pdf

ExhibitB\_E&Y\_AuditReportOfOct5\_2009.pdf

ExhibitC BOTApprovalOfContract.pdf

ExhibitD\_DOTApprovalForBudget.pdf





Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter

Funding Year 2007: July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

November 15, 2010

Carlos Alvarez
ZAPATA INDEP SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O.BOX 242157
Montgomery, AL 36124

Re: Form 471 Application Number:

Funding Year:

Applicant's Form Identifier:

Billed Entity Number:

FCC Registration Number:

SPIN:

Service Provider Name:

552614 2007

141503-2007-471 TELCO

141503

0012731899

143004662

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Service Provider Contact Person:

Mike Swisher

Our routine review of Schools and Libraries Program (Program) funding commitments has revealed certain applications where funds were committed in violation of Program rules.

In order to be sure that no funds are used in violation of Program rules, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) must now adjust your overall funding commitment. The purpose of this letter is to make the required adjustments to your funding commitment, and to give you an opportunity to appeal this decision. USAC has determined the applicant is responsible for all or some of the violations. Therefore, the applicant is responsible to repay all or some of the funds disbursed in error (if any).

This is NOT a bill. If recovery of disbursed funds is required, the next step in the recovery process is for USAC to issue you a Demand Payment Letter. The balance of the debt will be due within 30 days of that letter. Failure to pay the debt within 30 days from the date of the Demand Payment Letter could result in interest, late payment fees, administrative charges and implementation of the "Red Light Rule." The FCC's Red Light Rule requires USAC to dismiss pending FCC Form 471 applications if the entity responsible for paying the outstanding debt has not paid the debt, or otherwise made satisfactory arrangements to pay the debt within 30 days of the notice provided by USAC. For more information on the Red Light Rule, please see "Red Light Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)" posted on the FCC website at http://www.fcc.gov/debt collection/faq.html.

#### TO APPEAL THIS DECISION:

You have the option of filing an appeal with USAC or directly with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

If you wish to appeal the Commitment Adjustment Decision indicated in this letter to USAC your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. In your letter of appeal:

- 1. Include the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and email address (if available) for the person who can most readily discuss this appeal with us.
- State outright that your letter is an appeal. Identify the date of the Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter and the Funding Request Number(s) (FRN) you are appealing. Your letter of appeal must include the \*Billed Entity Name,
- ·Form 471 Application Number,
- ·Billed Entity Number, and
- •FCC Registration Number (FCC RN) from the top of your letter.
- 3. When explaining your appeal, copy the language or text from the Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter that is the subject of your appeal to allow USAC to more readily understand your appeal and respond appropriately. Please keep your letter to the point, and provide documentation to support your appeal. Be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal including any correspondence and documentation.
- 4. If you are an applicant, please provide a copy of your appeal to the service provider(s) affected by USAC's decision. If you are a service provider, please provide a copy of your appeal to the applicant(s) affected by USAC's decision.
- 5. Provide an authorized signature on your letter of appeal.

To submit your appeal to us on paper, send your appeal to:

Letter of Appeal Schools and Libraries Division - Correspondence Unit 100 S. Jefferson Rd. P. O. Box 902 Whippany, NJ 07981

For more information on submitting an appeal to USAC, please see the "Appeals Procedure" posted on our website.

If you wish to appeal a decision in this letter to the FCC, you should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received by the FCC or postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options described in the "Appeals Procedure" posted on our website. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

#### FUNDING COMMITMENT ADJUSTMENT REPORT

On the pages following this letter, we have provided a Funding Commitment Adjustment Report (Report) for the Form 471 application cited above. The enclosed Report includes the Funding Request Number(s) from your application for which adjustments are necessary. See the "Guide to USAC Letter Reports" posted at http://usac.org/sl/tools/reference/guide-usac-letter-reports.aspx for more information on each of the fields in the Report. USAC is also sending this information to your service provider(s) for informational purposes. If USAC has determined the service provider is also responsible for any rule violation on the FRN(s), a separate letter will be sent to the service provider detailing the necessary service provider action.

Note that if the Funds Disbursed to Date amount is less than the Adjusted Funding Commitment amount, USAC will continue to process properly filed invoices up to the Adjusted Funding Commitment amount. Review the Funding Commitment Adjustment Explanation in the attached Report for an explanation of the reduction to the commitment(s). Please ensure that any invoices that you or your service provider(s) submits to USAC are consistent with Program rules as indicated in the Funding Commitment Adjustment Explanation. If the Funds Disbursed to Date amount exceeds your Adjusted Funding Commitment amount, USAC will have to recover some or all of the disbursed funds. The Report explains the exact amount (if any) the applicant is responsible for repaying.

Schools and Libraries Division Universal Services Administrative Company

cc: Mike Swisher Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

#### Funding Commitment Adjustment Report for Form 471 Application Number: 552614

Funding Request Number: 1524732

Services Ordered: TELCOMM SERVICES

SPIN: 143004662

Service Provider Name: Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Contract Number: Mr

Billing Account Number:

Site Identifier: 141503
Original Funding Commitment: \$42,461.40
Commitment Adjustment Amount: \$42,461.40
Adjusted Funding Commitment: \$0.00
Funds Disbursed to Date \$42,461.40

Funds to be Recovered from Applicant: \$42,374.83

After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that this funding commitment must be rescinded in full. During the course of the audit it was determined that the applicant failed to comply with the FCCs competitive bidding requirements. The Applicant did not advertise in a local paper when and where submitted bids would be received and opened. Nor did the applicant get board approval for the Internal Connections services. According to the FCCs competitive bidding requirements, Applicants are required to follow state and local procurement requirements. Since the Applicant failed to comply with the competitive bidding requirements, the commitment has been rescinded in full and USAC will seek recovery of any disbursed funds from the applicant.

#### STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF ZAPATA

## ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

On this 18th day of February 2005, the Board of Trustees of Zapata County Independent School District convened in a special board meeting of said Board in Professional Development Center located on 17th & Carla Street.

Board President Veronica P. Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He stated that a quorum of board members was present.

#### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Superintendent Romeo Rodriguez, Jr. delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Texas Pledge.

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Veronica P. Gonzalez
Mr. Armando Paredes
Mrs. Dora Martinez
Mr. Zachary Garza
Mr. Jose M. Ramirez, III
Mr. Anselmo Treviño, Jr.
Mr. Ricardo X. Ramirez

(arrived at 12:03 p.m.)
(arrived at 12:10 p.m.)

#### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

none

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Staff members present included: Mr. Jorge Montes

Mrs. Nelda Guevara Mr. Roman Echazarreta Mrs. Lourdes Martinez Mr. Jorge Salazar

### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

none

#### CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS

Superintendent Rodriguez reported that all of North Early Childhood students visiting the Jorge Uribe Ranch.

2. Technology Report for E Rate Year 8 (2005-2004)

Mr. Jorge Montes III reported to the Board of Trustees on E-Rate Year 8.

Mr. Montes stated that in order to meet requirements set in the District's long range technology plan, which went hand in hand with the State's plan, District needed to upgrade and improve technology by year 2010.

Mr. Montes stated that he was present to ask for commitment for funds towards improving technology. He stated that on July 2005, the Technology Department would begin rewiring all campuses. He stated funding would come from E-Rate Year 8. Mr. Montes also discussed the areas that

E-Rate Year 8 funded, which were:

- Telecommunications
- Internet Access
- Internal Connections

## Approval of E-Rate Proposal for Year 8 This item was discussed after executive session.

Mr. Jorge Montes III informed the Board of Trustees that Zapata County Independent School District was proposing to request technology funds to enhance the technology in the district. He stated that request for supplemental funds would be done through an E-Rate Proposal for Year 8 Grant. Mr. Montes expressed that a committee composed of Superintendent Rodriguez, Mrs. Norma Garcia, Mrs. Becky Salinas, Mrs. Nelda Guevara, Mrs. Lourdes Martinez and he had met to discuss the proposals. Mr. Montes shared a list of proposals with the Board. He stated that the district would be responsible for 14% of total expenses which would be \$306,144.00. Superintendent Rodriguez stated that the deadline to submit the proposal was February 18, 2005 midnight.

Board President Veronica Gonzalez called for a motion on approval of E-Rate Proposal for Year 8 as presented.

Mr. Jose M. Ramirez III made a motion to approval of E-Rate Proposal for Year 8 as presented. Mr. Zachary Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Lease Purchase of School Buses

Mrs. Lourdes Martinez informed the Board of Trustees that four school buses had been ordered and received in August 2004 (Exhibit A), and that financing of these buses was still pending. She shared a proposal from Tobyne & Co., Inc. (Exhibit B). Mrs. Martinez stated that the interest rate for the lease purchase agreement would be \$.22% for three years with annual payment of \$89,301.81. She stated that the total cost of \$257,204.00 would include \$1,774.00 of accrued interest being charged by the bus company from the time the buses were delivered to the present. She informed the Board that interest rate quotations had been obtained from two other finance companies and that Tobyne & Co. had been in line with other quotes. She stated that therefore, the recommendation was Board approval for lease purchase agreement with Tobyne & Co. at the terms and conditions presented.

Mr. Armando Paredes made a motion to approve the lease purchase of school buses, subject to review by counsel as presented by Mrs. Lourdes Martinez Mrs. Dora Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board went into executive session at 12:30 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 1:15 p.m.

Board President Veronica Gonzalez announced that no action had been taken in executive session.

In open session

- Possible Closed Session: Pursuant to Section 551.074 Of the Texas Govt.
   Code, the Board will discuss Resignations, Retirements, and Leaves of Absence, New Employment, New Personnel Positions, Return from Leave of Absence, and Contract Renewal for Teachers.

   No action was taken.
- Action, if any, on items discussed in closed session.
   No action was taken.
- 7. Board Information Items:
- Calendar: This item has been added to the agenda to provide an
  opportunity to set dates for student and/or teacher hearings or to bring to the
  Board's attention other dates.
- 9. <u>Comments:</u> none
- Adjournment
   There being no further business, Mr. Ricardo Ramirez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Zachary Garza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Veronica P. Gonzalez Board President Dora O.S. Martinez Board Secretary

#### ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 17th & Carla - P.O. Box 158 Zapata, Texas 78076-0158

Action:

Board of Trustees

February 18, 2005

SUBJECT: Approval of E-Rate Proposal for Year 8

Zapata County Independent School District is proposing to request technology funds to enhance the technology in the district. The request for supplemental funds will be done through an E-Rate Proposal for Year 8.

Administration is recommending that the E-Rate Proposal for Year 8 be approved by the Members of the School Board.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Romeo Rodriguez, dr Superintendent of Schools Lourdes G. Martinez, Administrative Assistant for Business Services

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## AGENDA ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Special Called Board Meeting
Friday, 12:00 noon
February 18, 2005
Professional Development Center
17<sup>th</sup> & Carla St. – P.O. Box 158
Zapata, Texas

#### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

A. Public Participation: At each regular meeting the Board alicts time at approximately 6:00 p.m., to hear from persons who desire to address the Board. Public participation also is permitted with respect to each action item on the Board's agenda. At all other times during the Board meeting the audience shall not comment upon nor enter into discussion or debate on matters being considered by the Board.

No presentation may exceed five minutes.

Delegations of more than five persons may be requested to appoint one or more persons to present their views to the Board.

If you desire to address the Board you must complete and sign a "Visitor Registration Card", a supply of which is available at the entrance to the Board Room. The President will call on you at the appropriate time. A recording is made of the meeting; therefore, please give your name and address and make your presentation as brief as possible. If you have written information pertaining to your presentation, please deliver it to the Superintendent.

B. Closed or Executive Session: The Board may elect to go into Closed or Executive Session at any time during this meeting to discuss any agenda item, or items, which the Board is authorized to discuss in Closed or Executive Session in accord with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et seq.

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and SALUTE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

ROLL CALL, Establishment of Quorum

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

AUDIENCES

#### Special Called Board Meeting, February 18, 2005

#### CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

			Page(s)	Person Responsible
1.	Remarks:	Superintendent		
2.	Report:	Technology Report for E Rate Year 8		Ms. R. Salinas Mr. J. Monta
3.	Action:	Approval of E-Rate Proposal for Year 8	8577	Ms. R. Salinas
4.	Action:	Approval of Lease Purchase of School Busses	8578	Mrs. L. Martinez
5.	Report / Possible Action:	Possible Closed Session: Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Govt. Code, the Board will discuss: Resignations, Retirements, Leaves of Absence, New Employment, New Personnel Positions, Return from Leave of Absence, Contract Renewal for Teachers.	8579	Mr. Rodriguez
6.	Action:	Action, if any, on items discussed in closed session	8580	Mr. Rodriguez

- 7. Board Information Items:
- Calendar: This item has been added to the agenda to provide an opportunity to set dates for student and/or teacher hearings or to bring to the Board's attention other dates.
- 9. Comments
- 10. Adjournment

## Zapata County I.S.D. P.O. Box 158 – 17th & Carla St. Zapata, Texas 78076

TO:

Board of Trustees

DATE:

February 18, 2005

SUBJECT: E-rate Year 8 projects bids

Administration requested bids for E-rate Year 8 projects. Based on all bids submitted , the Technology E-Rate Committee has made the following recommendation:

Company		
Internal Connections		
Integrity Communications Ltd,		Amount \$ 1,997,195.72
Internet Access		
Trillion (Wireless Internet Access) E-Chalk (Website Hosting)		\$ 82,320.00 \$ 5,500.00
Telecommunications		
SBC Approximate yearly Singular Approximate yearly		\$ 67,727.42 \$ 34,000.00
	Total	\$ 2,188,743.14
	14%	306,144,04

1,880,599.10